

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An installation for intermediate storage of flat articles, the installation comprising:

a number of passively displaceable roll supports, each comprising a rotateable winding core,

a number of winding stations for winding incoming flat articles onto the winding cores of the roll supports and for unwinding outgoing flat articles from the winding cores of the roll supports,

a number of storage places for roll supports, the number being about the same as or larger than the number of roll supports,

a number of primary transport paths and a secondary transport path, wherein the primary transport paths extend from two sides of the secondary transport path and wherein on each primary transport path an entrance of one of the plurality of winding stations is located or a plurality of the storage places is located;

a number of positioning devices, the number being considerably smaller than the number of roll supports and number of primary transport paths, the positioning devices being equipped for actively travelling along the primary transport paths towards and away from the secondary transport path and for transporting one of the roll supports at a time, the roll support being arranged on a front side of the

positioning device;

an orienting device being equipped for actively traveling along the secondary transport path, the orienting device comprising a first side face and an opposite, second side face, the first being selectively openable for receiving and releasing only one of the positioning devices at a time and the second side face being always closed, wherein the orienting device is equipped for a rotation by 180° for selectively orienting the openable side face towards one of the two sides of the secondary transport path;

wherein the primary transport paths, the storage spaces, the entrances of the winding stations and the positioning devices are adapted to each other for the positioning devices to travel forward in a direction away from the secondary transport path and to travel backward in a direction towards the secondary transport path, the front side of the positioning device facing forward on forward traveling and backward on backward traveling;

and wherein the orienting device and the positioning devices are adapted to each other such that the positioning devices are able to actively drive onto the orienting device from a primary transport path through the open side face of the orienting device and off the orienting device through the open side face thereof to another or the same primary transport path.

2. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the primary transport paths run parallel to one another and transverse to the secondary transport path.

3. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the positioning devices are elevating trucks comprising a forklift.
4. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the positioning devices are equipped for travelling along guide means.
5. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 4, wherein the guide means are rails or electrical guide lines.
6. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the orienting device comprises a supporting frame which is rotateable around a vertical axis and which is suspended from a supporting beam.
7. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 6, wherein the vertical axis passes through the area of the center of gravity of the positioning device being carried by the orienting device and being loaded with a supporting element holding a roll of the flat articles.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 6, wherein the orienting device further comprises means for elevating or lowering the positioning device.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 9, wherein the means for elevating or lowering comprises a plurality of chain hoists, which are synchronously driven.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the orienting device is drivable along rails.

15. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, and further comprising a tertiary transport path and a further device for transporting the orienting device along the tertiary transport path.

16. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 15, wherein the further device is an elevator.

17. – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the orienting device and positioning device are configured such that receipt of the positioning device by the

orienting device includes running the orienting device under the positioning device and lifting the orienting device, and upon release of the positioning device, the positioning device and orienting device are not operatively connected.